

NEW JERSEY COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Resolution Opposing Splitting Up of New Jersey in Repositioning Plan of the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Commission on Civil Rights is charged with promoting prejudice reduction and ways to help reduce discrimination, and it helps the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights in the exercise of its duties to combat unlawful discrimination in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("Commission") is charged with enforcement of federal laws to protect employees from unlawful discrimination in their places of employment; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights (NJDCR") has had a Work-sharing Agreement with the Commission for decades, and as such has collaborated in combating unlawful employment discrimination; and the NJDCR is the only Fair Employment Practices Agency ("FEPA") in the State of New Jersey; and

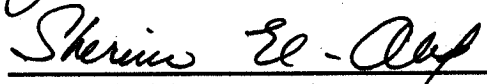
WHEREAS, for decades, the entire State of New Jersey has been included in the Commission's Philadelphia District Office and as such, has been instrumental in unifying the State of New Jersey's efforts to combat unlawful discrimination in the workplace; and

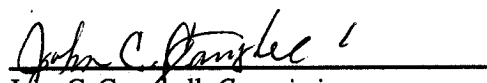
WHEREAS, the NJDCR and the Philadelphia District Office have had unprecedented collaboration over the years, and in 2004, the Commission awarded to the Philadelphia District Office and the NJDCR its national "Annual Public Service Commendation Award in the Furtherance of Proactive Prevention" at the annual EEOC/FEPA Training Conference in Miami, Florida, because of the incredible collaboration between the federal and State agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Commission is now proposing, by way of its "Repositioning Plan", to split the State of New Jersey in half, and force the NJDCR to report to both the New York District Office and the Philadelphia District Office, creating enormous confusion for constituents, increasing administrative costs to the New Jersey FEPA, and reduce the ability of the NJDCR to collaborate with the Commission's offices as successfully as it has collaborated over the years.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this date, June 14, 2005, that the New Jersey Commission on Civil Rights calls upon the Commission to revise its Repositioning Plan to keep the entire State of New Jersey in one Commission District Office, in order to ensure protection for New Jersey's employees and employers.


Olga Vazquez-Clough, Chair


Sherine El-Abd, Secretary


John C. Campbell, Commissioner


Nita Raval, Commissioner


Dr. Joan Rivitz, Vice-Chair


Kun Lee, Commissioner


Richard T. Smith, Commissioner